

AUTHORITY OVER DEMONS

Luke 4.31-44 // May 17, 2026

THE DEMONS RECOGNIZE HIM

During Jesus' visit to Nazareth, the people were amazed at His words and asked, "isn't this the carpenter's Son?" Here in Capernaum, both the people *and* even demons are amazed at His words, but the demons say, "we *know* who You are!"

The enemy knows Scripture, and he knows truth. Therefore, he knows how to manipulate it and twist it. And yet, despite knowing Scripture, he is still warped in his thinking and seems to believe he can still outdo and outwit God Himself.

Genesis 3.14, 15

CASTING OUT DEMONS

Luke 4.18, 19

In a powerful turn of events, Jesus casts out demons, which had never been seen or attested to previously. This causes people to marvel, which is what these signs were meant to do!

**Miracles are the great bell of the universe,
which draws men to the sermon of God.**

-John Foster

The word "miracle" is not in the Bible, which doesn't mean that they don't exist, but the real words used are "signs, wonders, and power." The word "miracle" is sort of a catch-all shorthand we use to describe signs and wonders that are powerful works of God. So, we must ask ourselves, what is the purpose of signs? Whether stop signs, billboards, or addresses on buildings, signs *point to something*. They are not the ultimate goal or destination, but they point to something specific.

**The miracles of Jesus are signs
of what lies ahead for the people of God.**

-James Dennison

THE TRIUMPH OF THE SON

Going back to the very beginning in **Genesis 3**, we see that God's ultimate purpose was to send a Savior to rescue us from sin, death, and all evil. The temporary gifts of healing and casting out of demons, and even raising the dead, such as with Lazarus, are beautiful and desired gifts from God, but even those are temporary, like signs or previews, pointing to a greater, eternal, never-ending reality that we get to live in.

1 John 3.8 // Matthew 12.29 // John 12.31, 32
Colossians 2.13-15 // Revelation 20.9-10

NOTES:

This Week's Call to Worship Psalm:

Psalm 8.1-6

This Week's Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 15.3, 4

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Open the evening with the **Call to Worship Psalm** and have someone open the night by *praying* the Psalm.

Read **Luke 4.31-44**. What stands out here or from Sunday's sermon?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Not all suffering or pains or sicknesses are relived in this life, which for us, can be very disheartening. However, what truths do you see in this story, as well as in the other Scriptures from Sunday, that draw your attention to the "sermon of God," the full story of what Christ came to do?

Your Life Mission

Jesus promised that in this life, we will suffer. And while no one can be expected to suffer perfectly with a smile plastered to our face, we do have a choice in how we respond to suffering. We can suffer poorly with gripe and complaint as the Israelites did in the wilderness, or we can suffer well. The difference can mean ourselves either being a "sign" for others who look at us as a billboard and see us "advertising" a much bigger, greater truth and reality, or us advertising that comfort and blessing in this life is what matters most.

It is upon each of us to seek and savor Christ above all, and find joy in Him even amidst and alongside our suffering. We can find that joy because we know that He does have full and ultimate authority over demons, sickness, sin, and death. Close the night praying for yourselves, that in your attitude and heart you would trust in Christ's sovereignty, even when the temporary blessings are not as you would like.

THE LORD'S P.R.A.Y.er MODEL

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself (Matthew 6.9, 10)

Repent and Confess (Matthew 6.12)

Ask for Provision (Matthew 6.11-13)

Yield with Thanksgiving (Matthew 6.10)

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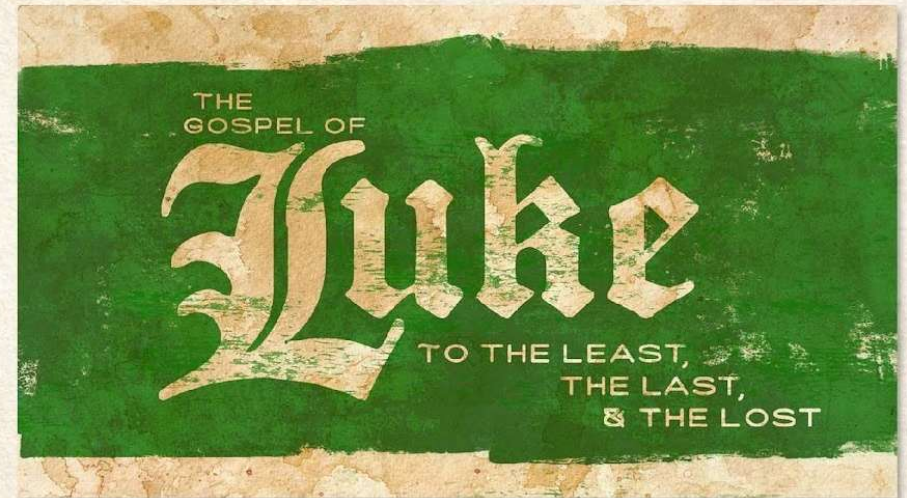
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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
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